GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:670
ANSWERED ON:03.03.2008
MOBILE SERVICE IN ANDHRA PRADESH
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Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the population and area covered under Mobile Telephone Service in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) the details of the expansion and development works of Mobile Telephone Services in Andhra Pradesh;

(c) whether the Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) Mobile Service is not working satisfactorily;

(d) if so, whether any review has been carried out regarding the working of BSNL officials; and

(e) if so, the outcome thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD)

(a) & (b): As per Cellular Mobile Telephone Service/Unified Access Services License conditions, these Service Providers have to cover 10% of the District Headquarters (DHQs)/towns within one year and 50% of the District Headquarters/towns within three years of the effective date of license agreement.

The choice of the DHQs/towns to be covered and further expansion beyond 50% of the District Headquarters shall lie with the Licensee depending on their business decision.There is no requirement of mandatory coverage of rural areas. As on 31.01.2008 the mobile tele-density in Andhra Pradesh is 23.14% for the population of 82306583 and number of Mobile Telephone per square km is 69.24.

(c) to (e) Mobile Telephone Service being provided by Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) is working satisfactorily in its Licensed Service Areas including Andhra Pradesh and is in general, meeting the Quality of Service (QoS) parameters prescribed by Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI). However, there are few locations in the State of Andhra Pradesh where at times, congestion in the network exceeds the benchmarks laid down by TRAI.Action has already been initiated by BSNL for expansion of the network to overcome this.

The functioning of BSNL officials are being assessed regularly and their performance is quite satisfactory resulting in over all positive growth of BSNL`s network across the country.